September 3, 2023 Announcements

We're glad we can worship together today!
We hope that you experience the love of God and of this congregation as we worship, celebrate, and serve with one another.

Summer Sermon Series – by Rev. Timothy Boggess

This summer, while many of you find yourselves traveling from one place to the other, we are going to explore some of the Bible's greatest road trips. The title of the series is *Road Trips: Stories of Faith on the Move*. Each Sunday, the sermon title will come from the title of a great travel story.



September 3 *A Voyage Long and Strange* Acts 18-21, selected

I hope that you will join us either in-person or online. It's going to be a journey to remember!

Called Congregational Meeting - Sunday, September 10, 2023, 12:00 noon

The session is calling a congregational meeting **Sunday September 10,** following the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary. The purpose is for the **election of elders and deacons**, and the **church officer nominating committee members**. A booklet of the nominees' biographies will be available at worship services or online. All church members who are able are asked to be present to ensure a quorum. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please be in prayer for all of our church leaders.

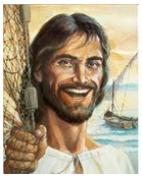
Sunday School begins Sunday, September 10.

All families planning to participate in Sunday school this year must complete the appropriate form(s) for each child. See links in New@First or use the QR code below.

Child form (Prek to 5th) Youth form (6th to 12th)

Inquirers' Class

If you are interested in learning more about this dynamic congregation, we'd love to get better acquainted with you! Our next inquirers' class will be on **Sunday, September 17**, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Instruction typically includes information concerning the beliefs, history, worship, and practices of the Presbyterian Church. We will meet together in class (room 225) from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., worship together from 11:00 a.m.– 12:00 noon, and then have a lite lunch and continue our discussion from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Please RSVP to the church office: (941) 955-8119 to make lunch reservations (noting any dietary restrictions). We hope to see YOU there! New members will be welcomed by the congregation on Sunday, September 24, in both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services.



New Adult Education Class

"Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John"
Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. via ZOOM
September 12- October 17

The beloved Gospel of John has deep and rich theological meanings. It focuses on who Jesus is as the Messiah and what it means to believe in him. John's understandings of Jesus are expressed in important metaphors that point toward Jesus in ways that are rich and meaningful. This study explores major themes in John's Gospel relating to the person of Jesus: Tabernacle, Giver of Living Water, Bread of Life, Good Shepherd, Resurrection and Life, and Passover Offering. These are significant images that move us to a deeper faith and to new visions of what it means, in very practical ways, to believe in Jesus today. This class will be led by **Elaine Barnett**, a member of FPC, an Elder and Certified Christian Educator. Register by emailing Elaine at ewbarnet@me.com. See more information in *News@First.*

New Bible Study Beginning on September 6, Pastor Tim will be offering two Wednesday Bible studies: an in-person Bible study at noon in Room 203 and a Zoom Bible study at 7:00 p.m. Both classes will be studying the text for the coming Sunday's sermon. See *News @ First* for Zoom link

New Lectionary Beginning Sunday, September 10, Pastor Tim will begin preaching through the Narrative Lectionary. The Narrative Lectionary is a four-year cycle of scripture readings designed to give listeners a better understanding of the arc of the biblical story from creation to redemption. You can read more about the Narrative Lectionary in this link from Luther Theological Seminary where it originated: https://www.workingpreacher.org/narrative-faq. The Sunday School curriculum for children and youth is also based on the Narrative Lectionary, thereby inviting the whole church to engage with the great stories of our faith.

Director of Christian Education The DCE search committee has posted the position description for a Director of Christian Education on our church website and on several other websites inviting qualified candidates to apply for this full-time position. We will be searching for a person educated and experienced in Bible and Christian Education. This person cannot be a member of our congregation. We are praying for the person who will be our new DCE and a partner of our Faith community.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - Hawaii

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

LOUISVILLE — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is working with the Presbytery of the Pacific following this week's fires that killed at least 111 people in Lahaina on the Hawaiian island of Maui and also burned portions of south Maui and the island's Upcountry region. After seeing the devastation in Lahaina, Hawaii Gov. Josh Green called it "the worst national disaster that Hawaii has ever faced."

An initial response grant has been disbursed to address emergency needs, and PDA will be present through the long-term recovery phase. Emergency needs include but are not limited to food, shelter, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), medicine and more.
Ways to give; make checks payable to FPC, with *Hawaii in the memo line or give online, select, Prsby.Dis.Asst with Hawaii the memo line*

Kayaking Day, Saturday, September 9



Kayak day is coming! Meet your church family on **Saturday, September 9**, at 8:40 a.m. on the bay side of Turtle Beach (8918 Midnight Pass Road), Siesta Key. Bring your own kayak or rent from our preferred vendor, Ultimate Kayak SRQ at (941) 720-8807, and ask for the discount rate for FPC. Call Pete **by Thursday, September 7**, to reserve: a single kayak for $35 or a double kayak for $40 for three hours. Pay them by credit card or cash.
We'll paddle in the bay down to peaceful Midnight Pass Beach to swim in the Gulf, if you like. Bring sunscreen, hat, clothes that can get wet, and water. Afterward, we'll have lunch at Turtle Beach Grill. If you don't want to kayak, meet us at Turtle Beach Grill around 12:30 p.m. For more information and to let us know that you are planning to join us, call or text Sue Hargis Spigel at (941) 735-8786 or Wendy Miller (941) 321-8488.

Fellowship Fun Please join us for the 10:00 a.m. fellowship hour. We serve coffee, tea, lemonade, and ice water and a selection of fruit, cheese and crackers, bagged chips, and baked goodies, some of them home-baked. Enjoy the opportunity to converse with people from the church service you normally don't attend. We have a vibrant congregation; here is a chance to talk and find out what other people are doing and thinking.



If you would like to receive our Friday E-Newsletter, News @ First, please call the church office, (941) 955-8119 or email, info@firstpressarasota.org.